

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An operation service information mediation system comprising:

a group of user terminals possessed by a group of passengers and a group of taxis, respectively, each user terminal having a transmission and reception function via a communication network; and

an information mediating device of an information mediator for mediating operation service information between the group of passengers and the group of taxis, the information mediating device of the information mediator comprising:

an information storage portion, in which taxi information from a group of taxis waiting for passengers, or passenger information from a group of passengers waiting for taxis is stored,

an information retrieval portion for retrieving specific taxi information, which satisfies a taxi selection condition received from a specific passenger, or specific passenger information, which satisfies a passenger selection condition received from a specific taxi, among the stored taxi information, or the stored passenger information, and

an information distribution portion for distributing the retrieved specific taxi information, or the retrieved specific passenger information to the specific passenger, or the specific taxi, respectively, via the network.

2. The operation service information mediation system according to claim 1, wherein the taxi selection condition received from the specific passenger contains at least one of pick-up location information, car-type information, pick-up time information, presentable

service information, and driver's characteristic information, desired by a passenger who waits for a taxi.

3. The operation service information mediation system according to claim 2, wherein when the passenger cannot extract specific taxi information which satisfies the taxi selection condition, the taxi selection condition is stored, as the passenger information, together with information of a contact address designated by the passenger.

4. The operation service information mediation system according to claim 1, wherein the passenger selection condition received from the specific taxi contains at least one of pick-up location information, car-type information, pick-up time information, presentable service information, and driver's characteristic information.

5. The operation service information mediation system according to claim 4, wherein when the taxi cannot extract specific passenger information, which satisfies the passenger selection condition, the passenger selection condition is stored, as the taxi information, together with information of a contact address designated by the taxi and information of a present location of the taxi.

6. The operation service information mediation system according to claim 1, wherein the information mediating device of the information mediator further comprises:

a timer portion for periodic distribution of the extracted specific taxi information, or the extracted specific passenger information to the group of user terminals possessed by the group of passengers and the group of taxis, respectively.

7. The operation service information mediation system according to claim 1, wherein the information mediating device of the

information mediator further comprises:

a charging function for charging an information delivery fee on a specific passenger having received the specific taxi information, or a specific taxi having received the specific passenger information, or both of the passenger and the taxi.

8. The operation service information mediation system according to claim 1, wherein the information mediating device of the information mediator further comprises:

a communication portion, by which both a specific passenger having received the specific taxi information and a specific taxi having received the specific passenger information are enabled to telephone each other via the Internet.

9. The operation service information mediation system according to claim 1, wherein a specific taxi having received the passenger information has a car specifying function for displaying an ID specific to the specific passenger, the car specifying function being configured such that the passenger may visually recognize the ID displayed in the car specifying function, or a predetermined signal is sent to the passenger when the taxi approaches the passenger at a predetermined distance, whereby the passenger can confirm the specific taxi mediated by the information mediating device.

10. The operation service information mediation system according to claim 9, wherein the car specifying function comprises a light sign display board.

11. An information mediating device of an information mediator for mediating operation service information among a group of user terminals, each terminal having a transmission and reception function via

a communication network, the group of user terminals possessed by a group of passengers and a group of taxis, respectively, comprising:

an information storage portion, in which taxi information from a group of taxis waiting for passengers, or passenger information from a group of passengers waiting for taxis is stored,

an information retrieval portion for retrieving specific taxi information, which satisfies a taxi selection condition received from a specific passenger, or specific passenger information, which satisfies a passenger selection condition received from a specific taxi, among the stored taxi information, or the stored passenger information, and

an information distribution portion for distributing the retrieved specific taxi information, or the retrieved specific passenger information to the specific passenger, or the specific taxi via the network.

12. A user terminal comprising:

a connection to an information mediating device through communication lines to obtain operation service information and capable of retrieving specific taxi information, which satisfies a taxi selection condition designated by a passenger, or specific passenger information, which satisfies a passenger selection condition designated by a taxi.

13. The user terminal according to claim 12, further capable of automatically or manually forwarding information of a present location of the taxi or passenger to the information mediating device.

14. An operation service information mediating method of mediating to passengers, operation service information among a group of user terminals, each terminal having a transmission and reception function via a communication network, the group of user terminals possessed by a group of passengers and a group of taxis, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a taxi selection condition from a specific passenger;
retrieving specific taxi information, which satisfies the taxi selection condition, from among stored taxi information, and storing the taxi selection condition from the specific passenger as passenger information together with contact address information designated by the passenger when the specific taxi information cannot be extracted from among the stored taxi information, and repeating the retrieval for a predetermined period of time, and
distributing results of the retrieval to the specific passenger via the network.

15. An operation service information mediating method of mediating to taxis, operation service information among a group of user terminals, each terminal having a transmission and reception function via a communication network the group of terminals possessed by a group of passengers and a group of taxis, respectively, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a passenger selection condition from a specific taxi,
retrieving specific passenger information, which satisfies the passenger selection condition, from among stored passenger information, and storing the passenger selection condition from the specific taxi as taxi information together with contact address information designated by the taxi when the specific passenger information cannot be extracted from among the stored passenger information, and repeating the retrieval for a predetermined period of time, and
distributing results of the retrieval to the specific taxi via the network.